



IFU 18

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: Q76291

Hirofumi FUJIOKA, et al.

Allowed: January 28, 2005

Appln. No.: 10/609,476

Group Art Unit: 2813

Confirmation No.: 2217

Examiner: SMOOT, STEPHEN W

Filed: July 01, 2003

For: METHOD FOR MANUFACTURING SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98

MAIL STOP ISSUE FEE

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) form and listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

1. Japanese Laid-Open Patent Application Publication No. 2002-164345, published June 7, 2002.
2. Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication No. H07-161931, published June 23, 1995.
3. Japanese Laid-Open Patent Application Publication No. 2000-164831, published June 16, 2000.
4. Japanese Laid-Open Patent Application Publication No. 2003-282722, published October 3, 2003.

03/10/2005 AMENDMENT 00000127 10609476

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

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5. Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication No. H02-283022, published November 20, 1990.
6. Japanese Laid-Open Patent Application Publication No. 2001-338922, published December 7, 2001.
7. Japanese Laid-Open Patent Application Publication No. 2003-017685, published January 17, 2003.
8. Japanese Laid-Open Patent Application Publication No. 2004-023043, published January 22, 2004.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after either a Final Office Action, Notice of Allowance, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application (whichever is earlier), but before payment of the Issue Fee, and therefore Applicant is submitting herewith a check for the fee of \$180.00 under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p), and a Statement Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e).

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant encloses here with a copy of a corresponding Japanese Office Action dated December 28, 2004 and an English translation of the pertinent portions thereof which cites such documents and indicates the degree for relevance found by the foreign office.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.


INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

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The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account. A duplicate copy of this paper is attached.

Respectfully submitted,


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WASHINGTON OFFICE

23373

CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: March 8, 2005



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STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)


Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The undersigned hereby states, upon information and belief:

That each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement filed concurrently herewith was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of said Information Disclosure Statement.

Respectfully submitted,


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TRADEMARK OFFICE

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First Named Inventor	Hirofumi FUJIOKA
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Examiner Name	SMOOT, STEPHEN W
Attorney Docket Number	Q76291

Sheet	1	of
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Examiner Initials ^a	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Translation ⁶
		Country Code ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)			
		JP	2002-164345	A	06-07-2002		
		JP	H07-161931	A	06-23-1995		
		JP	2000-164831	A	06-16-2000		
		JP	2003-282722	A	10-03-2003		
		JP	H02-283022	A	11-20-1990		
		JP	2001-338922	A	12-07-2001		
		JP	2003-017685	A	01-17-2003		
		JP	2004-023043	A	01-22-2004		

[illegible]

Date Considered

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov, MPEP 901.04 or in the comment box of this document. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to indicate here if English language Translation is attached.